

Mersey. The submarine followed but gave up the chase when the mouth of the river was reached. It is not known definitely whether the submarine which chased the Graphic was the same as the one which attacked the vessel in the Irish Sea. It is believed this vessel made the three attacks unaided, although it is considered unlikely that she is alone in the Irish Sea. The appearance of the submarine off the west coast of England has caused great surprise and some apprehension. It is considered likely that the submarine reached these waters under cover of a merchant vessel flying a neutral flag. Fleetwood is less than thirty miles north of the mouth of the Mersey. The bulk of the British shipping to Europe land a now centered at Liverpool as a result of the closing of other ports for the handling of Lord Kitchener's volunteer army, which is being transported to the Continent, and the Germans evidently are planning to make Liverpool the centre of their attacks on shipping.

#### Suspect Von Tirpitz's Plan.

Coming so short a time after the similar destruction of the steamer Durdur by a German submarine off the Hook of Holland, the destruction of the Ben Cruachan and the Linda Blanche is taken here to indicate that the plan of Admiral von Tirpitz to use submarines against British commerce has been adopted by the German Admiralty. Orders have been issued for ships of the home fleet to convey all British steamers as soon as they are reported in home waters.

The German action has aroused much indignation here. It is taken as an admission that the German fleet has found itself impotent to interfere with British commerce by making catenae and that the sinking of merchant vessels by submarines has been adopted in an effort to create a reign of terror to British shipping.

Recent reports said that the Germans have been building submarines with a steaming radius of 2,500 miles. While the German attacks so far have been confined to freight steamships, it is felt here that similar attacks may be made at any time against the big transatlantic passenger vessels.

The distance from the mouth of the Elbe, where it is supposed that the German submarines have their base, to the mouth of the Mersey, presuming that the vessel which sank the British merchant vessel sailed the north of Scotland, is roughly 1,000 miles. It is probable that the submarine would venture through the heavily patrolled English Channel to get to the west coast. This route would be a little shorter than the other, but 1,000 miles or more from the German base.

The German submarine U-21 is one of a class of nine boats, numbered from U-19 to U-27, built in 1912 and 1913. The vessels of this class have a displacement of 840 tons on the surface and a speed of 17 knots on the surface and 12 knots submerged. The Ben Cruachan was torpedoed and sunk by U-21 on January 25, 1915. The Ben Cruachan was a vessel of 1,022 tons and was built at Stockton, England, in 1902. She was last reported in American records when she sailed from Madeira on November 27 for New York. The Graphic is a 1,235 ton vessel built in 1902 and owned by W. H. Cockerline & Co. Shipping records available here make no mention of the Linda Blanche.

#### SAYS TIGER ALSO SANK.

Berlin Declares British Censor Forbade Publication of News.

Berlin, Jan. 30, by wireless to Sayville, L. I.—The press bureau announced this afternoon that the captain of the Dutch cargo boat arriving at Amsterdam says the British battle cruiser Tiger, largest and newest of the British battle cruisers, was torpedoed and sunk in the recent naval fight in the North Sea.

The press bureau's statement continues that according to Amsterdam papers, the London Morning Post issued a poster reporting the sinking of a British cruiser in the engagement, but the censor ordered the entire edition suppressed.

The British Admiralty announced that the Tiger was slightly damaged in the engagement and that she had put into Leth. Scotland. Her damage was described as less severe than that of the Lion, Vice-Admiral Beatty's flagship, which led the squadron, and it was announced that both ships would be repaired and be back in active service within a short time.

#### MUST EAT STALE BREAD.

Dresden Residents Are Forbidden to Buy in Evening.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. AMSTERDAM, via Paris, Jan. 30.—It is reported from Dresden that residents there are now receiving every evening bread which is destined for use the next day. They buy a large supply in the evening so as to be able to eat some of the bread when it is fresh. In view of this evasion of the order the Saxon Government has ordered that in future bakers shall supply only stale bread in the evening. The Government threatens to forbid the baking of cakes and other pastries.

#### KAISER GOING TO EAST FRONT.

Will Confer With Staff in Berlin Before Departing.

Berlin, via The Hague, Jan. 30.—The Emperor returned to the capital to-night from the field.

It is expected that he will hold a conference with members of his staff to-morrow and proceed to the eastern battle front early next week.

#### CAILLAUX ON WAY HOME.

Former Minister of Finance Leaves Buenos Ayres for France.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. PARIS, Jan. 30.—Joseph Caillaux, ex-minister of Finance and his wife, who killed Gaston Calmette, editor of the Figaro, have left Buenos Ayres for France.

M. and Mme. Caillaux sailed for South America in November. Their going was not announced beforehand and rumors were current in Paris that the former Minister of Finance had been practically banished from France. The Havas Agency later announced that M. Caillaux was on a business mission. Another report was that he was engaged in an anti-German propaganda in South America.

#### SEEKS TO CALM RUMANIANS.

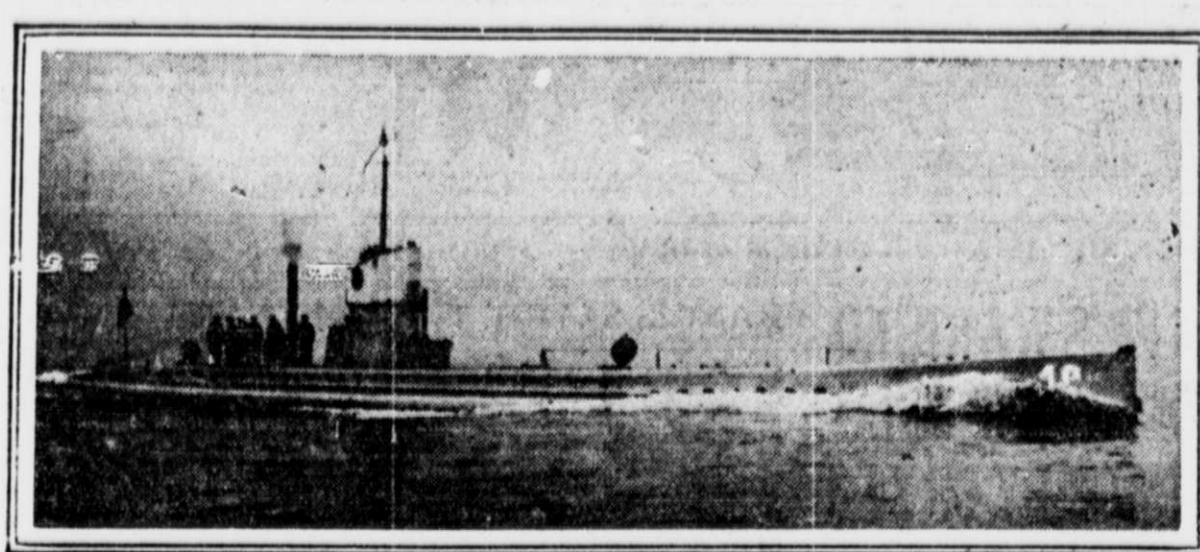
Austria Asks Them Not to Poment Agitation in Transylvania.

PARIS, Jan. 30.—Baron von Burian, the new Foreign Minister of Austria, has sent a telegraphic note to the Rumanian Government, according to a Geneva dispatch to the Fourrier Agency, asking that Rumanians refrain from fomenting agitation among the Rumanian population in Transylvania.

#### Unions Open Relief Depot Here.

A depot for the distribution of provisions to needy unemployed members of its affiliated unions was opened at 192 Henry street yesterday by the unemployed relief committee of the United Hebrew Trades and other organizations formed several weeks ago. Next week the conference will open a kitchen in the same place and stock to supply meals to needy workers.

A committee of women was in charge of the provision depot yesterday. Last evening the committee reported that 700 unemployed members of unions have received bundles of provisions during the day.



The German submarine U 21, which torpedoed and sank the British merchantmen Ben Cruachan and Linda Blanche in the Irish Sea.

## SAYS ALLIES GAINED STEADILY IN FRANCE

French "Eyewitness" Tells of Gradual Progress During Ten Days.

### KAISER'S PRIZE NOT WON

PARIS, Jan. 30.—The following report by an official "eyewitness" covering the campaign in France between January 16 and January 25 was issued by the French War Office to-day:

"Our advance has been slight, but regular. Under the cover of night, troops protected by portable bucklers slip along the dunes and roads, rapidly improving the positions. The dunes are filled with earth, for deep trenches are impossible in the ground. The artillery supporting these operations have made many of the German trenches in the dunes untenable.

"The only infantry action around Ypres occurred at dawn on Monday, January 25, when a German infantry company deployed 150 yards from our lines and charged at double quick. Three companies followed each other at short distances, supported by an entire brigade. This attack was instantly checked by the violent fire of our infantry, supported by artillery.

"The officer commanding the leading company was the first to fall, and in a few minutes the ground was covered with more than three hundred dead, while many became entangled in the barbed wire and were made prisoners. Some of them, notwithstanding painful injuries from the barbed wire, tore themselves out of the tangle. The prisoners said that the attack was to be supported by other forces, which were disposed by our artillery fire.

### Victory at La Bassee.

"British infantry and French artillery repulsed a violent attack at La Bassee. Hundreds of dead still lie on the field. The attack was again repulsed, the German losses being at least two battalions (2,000 men).

"At La Bassee to Arras there have been continuous artillery engagements, the most violent at La Bassee, which was followed by an infantry charge in force. The entire shock was received by three companies, which held their ground in spite of a formidable cannonading by three inch, four inch, six inch and eight inch guns, bombs and grenades. It became necessary to abandon the burning houses at La Fonderie, which was destroyed by grenades. Part of our force succeeded in retreating, the others were killed or wounded and fell into the enemy's hands.

"Three companies from the second line of defense deflected a counter attack by the enemy and bayonet until the last moment was regained.

"The action was particularly violent at La Bassee, being nearly continuous from January 16 to January 26. A prisoner taken January 15 said that Emperor William had ordered the occupation of this place in honor of the anniversary of the founding of the empire, and promised 700 marks to whoever brought back a French machine gun. Nine successive attacks were repulsed.

"The explosion of a depot of melinite permitted the enemy to capture a small section of the trenches, but they were driven out half an hour later, and the trench at La Bassee was found to be full of German dead, including several officers.

"Around Soissons the enemy had gained no advantage since January 14. At Paisy the two adversaries are within twenty yards of each other and the same line of barbed wire serves as a defense for each side. Four companies of German attacked at this point after the explosion of a mine, but were repulsed and a counter attack drove the enemy from the trenches. They left hundreds of dead and many wounded. Our loss was forty killed.

"German Attack Repulsed. "There was a three days battle at Berry-au-Bac, beginning with a bombardment on January 20, which demoralized our trenches and permitted a successful attack by the infantry. The enemy installed himself in our advance trenches and resisted our counter attacks on January 21 from 8 o'clock until 11, when we recaptured one trench and took a number of prisoners. The other trench was held until the 23d, when an attack by a single company of French infantry succeeded. The enemy left twenty prisoners in our hands, but engaged in an artillery action lasting four hours. This was followed by a counter attack by the German infantry, which was repulsed with heavy loss.

"In the region of Perthes the Germans tried desperately to reconquer the positions they had lost, but we maintained our position and made further gains. The Germans gained about 100 yards of our advanced trenches, but we gained more.

"In Le Prete Wood, northwest of Pont-a-Mousson, we have gained important successes in spite of the fact that part of the ground has since been lost. The entire forest two months ago was in the hands of the Germans. Foot by foot we have conquered nearly the whole of it.

"The fighting in this region has been particularly severe. In one instance, on January 27, we captured several of the enemy's works in a counter attack. An entire German company was taken, including several officers. On the 17th we gained 100 yards of the enemy's trenches, while on the 19th we made an advance of 100 yards beyond these trenches. We picked up dead and wounded in sufficient numbers to indicate that the enemy's losses in these engagements were more than a battalion.

"Since the 15th the Germans have continually attacked this point desperately, but have regained only a third of the ground lost.

## FRENCH REGIMENT IS REPORTED WIPED OUT

Berlin Announces Decisive Victory, Following German Attack in Argonne Forest.

### PROGRESS NEAR NIEUPORT

BERLIN, by wireless to London, Jan. 30.—A French infantry regiment seems to have been annihilated in the Argonne forest, according to a report issued by the German War Office to-day. The statement follows:

"The French losses in the fighting to the north of Nieuport January 23 were heavy. More than 300 Maroche and Algonquians were found dead in the sand dunes. German artillery yesterday hampered the enemy in his efforts to make his way by sapping operations in the direction of the sand hill which is to the east of the light-house located to the south of La Bassee Canal. Last night the Germans captured from the French at this point two more trenches which are connected with the positions occupied by us January 25. In this operation we made sixty prisoners.

"In the western part of the Argonne forest a German attack delivered yesterday resulted in a considerable advance. Twelve officers and 733 soldiers were taken prisoners. We also captured twelve machine guns and ten smaller guns. The losses of the enemy were heavy, from 400 to 500 dead having been left on the field. The French infantry Regiment No. 153 seems to have been annihilated. The German losses were comparatively small.

"The French attacks to the southeast of Verdun were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. To the northeast of Badonviller the French forces were driven from the village of Droment and Angomont was occupied by our troops.

"In East Prussia a Russian attack against the German force protecting a bridgehead to the east of Darkehmen was without result. Some of our fortifications to the east of the lake district were shelled by the enemy. A Russian attack to the southeast of Lake Loewenstein broke down under the German fire and a Russian night attack near Borjnow, east of Lovos, was repulsed with very heavy losses to the enemy.

## POSTAL DEFICIT MAY REACH \$30,000,000

Rigid Economies, Even to Laying Off of Employees, Are Urged.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—Acknowledgment that the Post Office Department is facing a large deficit and that drastic economies, including the laying off of employees, is necessary, was made to-day. It has been estimated by some that the deficit at the end of the fiscal year will amount to as much as \$30,000,000.

Daniel C. Roper, First Assistant Postmaster General, issued the following statement:

"The decrease in postal revenues since August 1, 1914, caused by unsettled business conditions created by the European war, makes it imperative that expenditures be reduced as far as possible consistent with satisfactory and adequate service, as they are now in excess of receipts. That this condition is not due to internal causes for which the service is responsible but to external war is shown by the fact that the increase in revenues for the month of July, 1914, over the corresponding month of the preceding year was above normal.

"It is believed that with the hearty cooperation of all postmasters and careful supervision of expenditures, expenditures may be adjusted on the basis of just receipts. No curtailment, however, must be made which will affect the prompt movement and delivery of mails and an efficient service to the people.

"Every feature of the postal service must be carefully considered and in every case where experience suggests the possibility of reducing cost, the plan by which such reduction be effected and all that it involves will be clearly set forth by the postmaster in communicating with the Department."

### REA'S BODYGUARD STABBED.

Cabman Attacks Railroad Detective in Pennsylvania Terminal.

Believing he was being persecuted by Pennsylvania Railroad police, James O'Neill, 46, a cabman living at 370 West Fifty-fifth street, last night attacked George F. Spencer, chief of detectives and personal bodyguard to President Samuel Rea of the company, at his office in the Pennsylvania Station. After slashing Spencer about the neck and face and cutting his clothing to shreds, O'Neill fought off three constables with his knife until he was brained insensible.

O'Neill was sent to Bellevue Hospital, where up to a late hour he was still unconscious. The constables, assisted by several physicians and sent home.

O'Neill had been handed a summons in the afternoon for blocking traffic on the Thirty-first street side of the Pennsylvania terminal. According to Patrolman Braun, he had left his horse and cab standing in the street for some time.

### WOULD ABOLISH CODE.

Justice Page Says It Is Indefensible in Its Cumbersomeness.

Radical legal reforms, including the abolition of the New York State Code, were recommended last night at the Baltimore by Justice Alfred R. Page of the Supreme Court at the thirty-first annual banquet of the Alumni Association of the New York University Law School. Among the 225 alumni were forty judges from New York.

Justice Page said that the Code of 1848 is indefensible in its cumbersomeness and should be superseded by a legislative enactment of a simple practice act similar to that in force in other States. The code, he said, makes judges administer practice rather than law. He favored the "summons for discovery" law of England, where interlocutory cases are brought before a master for decision, with no right of appeal except in cases where there is a possibility of actual injustice. He also favored giving more power to trial judges, especially where motions are made to set aside a verdict as being against the weight of evidence.

Other speakers were Judge Cyrus C. Miller and the Rev. Percy Whitman. Other guests were Chancellor Elmer Ellis, John Brown and Dean Clarence D. Ashley.

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## French Admit Serious Check in the Argonne

Troops Are Forced to Withdraw Lines 200 Meters to New Position, Which Is Now Organized—Losses Are Large.

### GERMANS SUFFER BIG DEFEAT IN FLANDERS

#### Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Jan. 30.—The French forces in the Argonne have suffered a severe reverse losing heavily in killed, wounded and prisoners and surrendering more than 200 yards of ground that had been gained by persistent and gallant effort.

This defeat is frankly admitted in the Government report issued to-night. No attempt is made to conceal the fact that the Germans by a terrific general attack destroyed the advantages which had been won by the steady progress of the French offensive. As a detail of the campaign on the east flank the German success cannot be minimized. It does not affect the general campaign, since the French withdrawal was a matter of yards, not miles, and the Government states that the withdrawal has ended and that the positions now occupied are being held.

The battle, which took place in the difficult wooded country southwest of Verdun, was one of the most bitterly contested of the war. The official report says that the Germans lost heavily and that the French, having failed for several weeks to halt the progress of the French, brought reinforcements to the district and delivered yesterday a heavy massed attack which was irresistible.

Long Way to Verdun.

Before reaching the outer defenses of Verdun the Germans have a long way to go, however, and entire confidence is felt here that the French field armies will prevent the invaders from advancing their destructive field mortars to within bombarding distance of the Verdun forts.

[The German official statement of yesterday asserted that on Friday the German attack in the western part of the Argonne virtually destroyed the 15th regiment of French infantry and gained considerable ground. The French losses were stated to be 745 prisoners and between 400 and 500 dead left on the field. The German losses were reported to be slight.]

To some extent the reverse in the Argonne was balanced by the victory of the Belgians and French in Flanders, north of Lombardzede, at the Grand Dune and by the British near La Bassee. To-night's report says that the Germans suffered heavily in both these engagements. Elsewhere to-day the operations were seemingly not of first rate importance. The Germans shelled Arras, Eurie and Douai, but the French unsuccessfully blew up French trenches north of the Alsne, just west of Soissons. The text of the last announcement is as follows:

Confirmation has been received that the enemy left a large number of dead on the battlefield north of Lombardzede at the foot of the Grand Dune, as well as before the English lines near La Bassee.

Arras, Ecurie and Rodincourt (north of Arras) were violently bombarded to-day.

The Germans exploded a mine on the Nouvion plateau without obtaining, however, any results.

In the Argonne our troops have been forced to withdraw from their advanced positions and organize themselves on new lines about 200 meters behind the line hitherto held. This ground was fought for very violently.

GERMANS REPULSED.

British Official Report Claims Victory Near Culnechy.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Jan. 30.—The following statement was made this evening by the official press bureau:

An attack was made in some force yesterday near Culnechy (northern France), but the enemy was easily repulsed.

Over two hundred German dead were counted in front of the trenches occupied by the British, among whom the casualties were small.

AUSTRIANS WIN PASSES.

Vienna Announces Success in Carpathians Campaign.

VIENNA, Jan. 30.—An official statement issued here to-day says:

On the Polish-Galician front general quiet prevailed except for some brief artillery duels.

The result of recent victorious battles in the Carpathians has been the request of the passes, in several instances lasting a week the Austrian troops, despite unfavorable weather conditions, fought with the greatest perseverance and stubbornness. Altogether, the Austrians have won great successes, and we have captured from the enemy a total of 10,000 prisoners and six machine guns.

AUSTRIANS PROGRESS.

Russian Lines in Galicia Are in Peril, Says Vienna.

VIENNA, via Amsterdam and London, Jan. 30.—An official communication issued by the Austrian General Staff says:

The present phase of the war in Galicia is proceeding favorably for us. The attempts of the Russian Galician army to outflank Archduke Joseph Ferdinand's army near Novy Sander and attack Cracow via Tarnopol have led to a counter offensive by the Archduke against Tarnopol, which threatens the rearward communications of the Russians in Galicia and the Carpathians.

Equally ineffective was the Russian invasion of Hungary and the attempt to invade Transylvania from Bukovina in order to isolate the Russian army and outflank our Carpathian forces.

In the north the German trenches are approaching the forts of Warsaw and we are also gaining ground in the Carpathians.

In Bukovina the enemy has retreated to Kimpolung after Gen. Fischer's victory near Kirilbaba.

KAISER UNDER FIRE.

Witnessed Soissons Battle From Danger Point, Berlin Hears.

BERLIN, via London, Jan. 30.—Emperor William stood in a heavy fire at the battle of Soissons and consented to leave the exposed position only after long and insistent pleadings of his staff, according to the correspondence agency, which says that it received the information from a reliable source.

MASSED GUNS IN DUEL.

Earth Trembles With Cannonading Near Pont-a-Mousson.

PONT-A-MOISSON, Jan. 23 (via Paris, Jan. 30).—The French and German to-day are directing their fire by messages from aeroplanes and captive balloons in order to locate each other's trenches and lines of communication.

French batteries continued at intervals to bombard the German positions, while the Germans were shelling a long, low white stone house on the Haut de Rieupet. It is the last house on the hill and forms a section of the French first line in front of this region.

This habit of massing many batteries, usually of light pieces, and ferociously hammering narrow sections of the German trenches seems to be very effective. To-night pieces of heavy artillery started up in the Bois-de-Mortmare, north of Elirey, and the bombardment produced the effect of a mighty triphammer pounding the earth.

Toward 6 o'clock this evening a few light shells fell into Pont-a-Mousson, but they did little damage.

## FRENCH CHATEAUX ARE STRIPPED BY GERMANS

Princesses de Poix One of Sufferers at Hands of Invading Army.

### BY MONSIEUR ROBINSON.

PARIS, Jan. 12.—Gen. von Kluge and his staff are now occupying the charming Chateau de "Ponny," the country place of the Princess de Poix, situated between Soissons and Laon, from which part of the objects d'art, pictures, tapestries and porcelains are already on their way to Germany. In fact I am told that very few articles of value remain in Belgium or in that part of France occupied by the enemy, for the Germans long employed by the German Government in Paris now accompany the German army dividing the effects of their booty in the worth the trouble of sending to Berlin.

Some interesting trophies of the Germans remain, however, at the Comtesse de Kersaint's Chateau de "Compiègne," which was captured by Count Hatzfeldt of the German staff and his officers. Count Hatzfeldt arrived there in state like all the grand seigneurs of Germany. In eight suitcases, each drawn by six horses and escorted by outriders. When Count Hatzfeldt was warned that the French and English were advancing he and his staff made a hurried departure in the middle of the night in two coaches, leaving behind the other six and most of the stable equipment, including the remaining sets of harnesses, on which solid silver mountings have just been handed over to the present head of the Castellane family in France, who will no doubt guard them as among the most precious souvenirs of the war.

SEARS-ROEBUCK'S BIG MELON.

Fifty Per Cent. Dividend of \$20,000,000 in Stock Declared.

CHICAGO, Jan. 30.—Directors of Sears, Roebuck & Co. at a special meeting to-day recommended the payment of a \$20,000,000 dividend to holders of the \$40,000,000 common stock of the corporation now outstanding.

The distribution will be made in raw common shares of the concern against an accumulated surplus of approximately \$22,500,000, a large part of which has been reinvested in the business.

The resolution recommended that the 50 per cent. stock dividend distribution be made in April to stockholders of record on March 15.

A special meeting of the stockholders has been called for February 21 to approve the board's resolution and to increase the authorized amount of the corporation's common stock from \$40,000,000 to \$60,000,000.

WENDEL GAVE TO SISTERS.

Said to Have Transferred \$25,000,000 Shortly Before Death.

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Jan. 30.—The final proceedings looking toward the appraisal of the assets of the late John G. Wendel, who is supposed to have left between \$10,000,000 and \$75,000,000, were taken to-day at White Plains when Surrogate Sawyer issued letters of administration. The administrators named are the deceased's sisters, Ella Von E. Wendel and Rebecca A. V. Wendel Swepco, who filed a surety bond for \$25,000.

It is said that a short time before his death Mr. Wendel transferred close